

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13-18, 21-28 and 30-39 are pending in the instant Application. All of the currently pending claims have been amended to be dependent upon elected claims, or further limit an elected claim(s). Applicants respectfully request consideration of all of the pending claims. Applicants also respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

The spelling of fibrous has been corrected in the claims. The Examiner is invited to specifically point out any additional spelling errors.

In response to the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over Application No. 10/375,555, please find attached hereto a Terminal Disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

The rejection of Claims 2, 4, 13, 15-17, 27, 28, 32, 35, 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Saitoh et al. (U.S.P.N. 5,695,867), is respectfully traversed.

Saitoh lacks any disclosure of the claimed passivating agent or fibrous reinforcement. Saitoh, therefore, cannot anticipate each and every aspect of the claimed invention.

While Saitoh does disclose certain filler materials including carbon fibrous filler materials, such does not automatically mean that these materials improve corrosion resistance or increase tensile strength. The disclosure of Saitoh fails to provide any basis for concluding that: i) the amount of filler is present in an amount or a form sufficient to improve corrosion resistance, or ii) the composition is applied onto a fibrous filler in a manner that can increase tensile strength.

The subsequent rejection of the same claims over Saitoh in view of secondary references further illustrates that Saitoh cannot anticipate or render the claimed invention obvious. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Saitoh cannot render the claimed invention obvious.

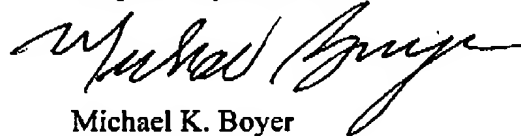
The rejection of Claims 2, 4, 13, 15-17, 27, 28, 32, 35, 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saitoh in view of Kitamura et al (U.S.P.N. 5,334,447) and Grossman et al. (U.S.P.N. 4,599,370) and Fuller (U.S.P.N. 6,416,834), is respectfully traversed.

Saitoh has the previously described deficiencies. These deficiencies are not remedied by the three secondary references. It is noted that the Action lacks any discussion as to why the secondary references are combinable with each other, and the primary reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the mere existence of certain compounds is insufficient to render obvious a composition comprising blended compounds.

It is important to note that Kitamura relates to a foam, Grossman to an injection molding composition and Fuller to a composition for promoting adhesion to a fluoropolymer (as opposed to a fluoropolymer containing composition). A skilled person in this art would not consider foaming, injection molding and fluoropolymer lamination as being relevant to Saitoh. Such is reinforced by the absence of any motivation to combine these references. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that Saitoh, Kitamura, Grossman and Fuller are insufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants believe that the pending claims define patentable subject matter and respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowability. Please find attached hereto a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time. Should there be any other fee due in connection with this application, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 15-0680 (ORSCHLN MANAGEMENT CO.). Should the Examiner deem that any further action on the part of Applicants would advance prosecution, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael K. Boyer
Attorney for Applicants
U.S.P.T.O. Reg. No. 33,085
Tel: 660 269-4536
Fax: 660 269-4530
mboyer@orscheln.com

Encl.: Certificate of Facsimile Transmission Dated: December 10, 2006
Terminal Disclaimer
Petition For A Three Month Extension of Time